

REMARKS

Claims 5-15 and 31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 5, 8-10 and 14 are amended. Support for the amendments to claim 5 may be found at least on page 34, lines 3-28 to page 35, lines 1-16 of the specification. Claims 8-10 and 14 are amended to correspond with the amendments to claim 5. No new matter is added by the above amendments. In view of at least the following, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Personal Interview

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Tran at the interview held April 24, 2008, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 5-12, 14, 15 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0050679 (Shigeta) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,008,809 (Brooks); and rejects claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shigeta in view of Brooks and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0110244 (Mondal). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, independent claim 5 recites, in part, "a communication unit for carrying out a two-way communication with the plurality of terminals, the communication unit being capable of sending to each terminal a window area size generated by a window area information generator for a window corresponding to the respective terminal, and the communication unit being capable of receiving captured image data from each terminal, the captured image data being converted into a predetermined image size by each respective terminal based on the window area size generated by the window area information generator;

the window area information generator dividing a display screen of the display according to at least a number of the terminals to be displayed and a priority order of each terminal, and the window area information generator generating a window area information file including the window area size for each window and information identifying a display position for each window" and "an image processor for generating a single screen multi-window format data from the synthesized image data and outputting the single screen multi-window format data to the display; and the display for projecting the single screen multi-window format data to form a multi-window screen displayed on the display screen of the display, wherein the window area information generator re-divides the display screen of the display according to the number of the terminals to be displayed and the priority order of each terminal when the number of terminals connected to the display is changed or the priority order of at least one terminal is changed."

Applicants respectfully submit that the applied art references do not disclose or establish any reason to provide at least the above-recited features of independent claim 5. Specifically, Shigeta discloses a communication unit 40 that transmits display attributes information for each display area of a screen of an image display device (paragraph [0048]). Shigeta further discloses that the display attributes information is read out from the per-area display attributes information storing unit 41 and that notification is made regarding each piece of image attributes information currently necessary for the image display device 30 to display each display area (paragraph [0085]). In Shigeta, the information read out is notified to the image signal sources, and the image information output by the image signal sources is received by the image/audio receiving unit (paragraph [0087]). Thereafter, in Shigeta all the stored display attributes information is read out and sent by a communication unit to the image signal sources and the image information output by the image signal sources based on all the stored display attributes is received by the image/audio receiving unit.

Therefore, Shigeta does not disclose at least "a communication unit for carrying out a two-way communication with the plurality of terminals, the communication unit being capable of sending to each terminal a window area size generated by a window area information generator for a window corresponding to the respective terminal, and the communication unit being capable of receiving captured image data from each terminal," as recited in claim 5. Furthermore, Shigeta at least does not disclose "the captured image data being converted into a predetermined image size by each respective terminal based on the window area size generated by the window area information generator; the window area information generator dividing a display screen of the display according to at least a number of the terminals to be displayed and a priority order of each terminal, and the window area information generator generating a window area information file including the window area size for each window and information identifying a display position for each window," as recited in claim 5.

Moreover, Shigeta discloses that the image signals obtained from the image/audio receiving unit are converted into images matching the display areas at the memory control unit 33 and synthesized into signals for the image display unit (paragraph [0087]). Therefore, Shigeta also does not disclose at least "an image processor for generating a single screen multi-window format data from the synthesized image data and outputting the single screen multi-window format data to the display; and the display for projecting the single screen multi-window format data to form a multi-window screen displayed on the display screen of the display," as recited in claim 5.

Furthermore, Shigeta does not disclose or establish any reason to provide at least "the window area information generator dividing a display screen of the display according to at least a number of the terminals to be displayed and a priority order of each terminal," as recited in claim 5. Specifically, Shigeta does not disclose dividing a display screen of the

display according to at least a number of terminals to be displayed and a priority order of each terminal.

Brooks does not cure the above-discussed deficiencies in Shigeta. Specifically, relates to a dynamic window that allows multiple windows for separate applications to be viewed at the same level without overlap (abstract). Shigeta discloses that any application window that is dropped into a dynamic window is dynamically sized in proportion to other windows already located within the dynamic window (col. 9, lines 52-53).

Therefore, Brooks does not disclose or establish any reason to provide at least "wherein the window area information generator re-divides the display screen of the display according to the number of the terminals to be displayed and the priority order of each terminal when the number of terminals connected to the display is changed or the priority order of at least one terminal is changed," as recited in claim 5.

Shigeta and Brooks, individually or in combination, do not disclose or establish any reason to provide the features of claim 5. Therefore, the applied art references fail to render obvious the subject matter of independent claim 5, and the claims dependent therefrom.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Request For Continued Examination (RCE)

Date: October 6, 2008

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